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FRIDAY, MAY 12, 1905.

Silence—For the Present.

There is a beautiful custom which decrees silence in the presence of the dead. It matters not who the man was, or what he did, or how he died; when he has passed away there is an awe that seizes us, and an instinctive reverence for the clay that was once man.

The catastrophes in Oklahoma and at Harrisburg are paralyzing to the mind. It may be proper at another time to say something regarding the responsibility for the human loss at Harrisburg. For the present, sympathy for the bereaved should displace other thoughts.

Public Opinion.

Public opinion is generally a matter of slow growth and quiet development, though its expression is occasionally sudden, violent, and noisy; it is more than and different from the mere aggregate of a majority of individual judgments; it is not only a composite reproduction of the lights and shades of pure reason in a community, but it partakes of and reflects the moral, racial, and economic conditions of a people.

Persistent over long periods of time, public opinion is the common law; whereas, statutes are generally the more or less temporary expressions of immediate needs modifying the main, general current, and adapting it to changed conditions. But there is another, more restricted, and usual meaning to this term, under which it denotes a general consensus of opinion regarding methods of administration and policy not reducible to rules and statutes, but affecting the attitude of individuals, and servants of the public, toward the execution of common and statute laws.

In this latter sense, public opinion is worthy of the most careful study of all of us. The man does not live who can afford to neglect it, for if it be a righteous and rightful movement of thought and feeling it will ride over him if he ignores it; it will batter him to a shapeless jelly if he opposes it; on the other hand, if the movement be vicious in morals or illogical in its thought structure, it is one's duty to expose its inherent weakness and oppose its tendencies. The public man must meet the tide of public opinion; and here, as elsewhere, the reward of bravery, even mistaken bravery, is great—but the ultimate result is inevitable: Rightful, righteous public opinion always will prevail.

Here is where the distinction arises between the statesman and the politician; this is the line of cleavage between the two: the statesman originates, guides, and directs public opinion along the lines of inherent justice and practical common sense toward the goal of race and national advancement, regardless of personal prejudice, and individual affiliations; whereas, the mere politician always has his ear to the ground, is swayed and tossed by considerations of personal gain and loss, and sooner or later is drowned by the rising of the tide which he has mistaken for a mere surface wave.

The expression of public opinion is a safety-valve to the public conscience, and a wise engineer will heed its warning signal; he will allow for reducing the pressure, will temper the fires that urge its rise, and examine the machine to see that all is sound. The very worst thing to be done is to attempt to choke the safety-valve; that may dispense with the annoyance of the escaping steam, but the outcome is sure to be disastrous.

Conservatism.

Conservatism is the inertia of the mind that marks the well-deserved rest following upon a youth of thoughtful activity and endeavor. This is the normal and correct meaning of the word, and in this sense the most violent and radical men of forty years ago are today our standard-bearers of conservatism. They have worked out the problems of their day, and it is with mingled surprise and indignation that they recognize any stirring of the youthful blood of the country, any demand for a new solution of the problem of social existence. As Bacon said: "Things and men move violently to their places, easily in them."

But there is another use of the word conservatism that marks its cowardly abuse. Men who have done nothing for the advancement of the race, who have accepted the sacrifices of their forefathers, supinely benefit by present conditions rather than carry the good work forward. Of such Hamlet was the type, and that tragedy is as true of world-politics as it is of world-thought and feeling; the man who would rather bear those ills

we have than fly to others that we know not of is a coward, though he be as cultivated as Hamlet and personally as beautiful and attractive as he.

In this sense, conservatism is the dry-rot and premature decay of nations, for it imposes upon the activities of the youthful generation the staid demeanor and stiff joints of age. Youth must be up and doing or it will lack the bone and sinew to preserve a hale old age. To the old the country may trust the conservation of what has been proved of good report, what has already been won; but the nation and the race demand of the youthful generation, not only that what has been won shall be retained, but that further conquests be made and new freedom acquired.

Stealing Our Girl-Type.

We are more closely bound to the English than we thought. Not in diplomacy alone, or in speech, or in the cuffs of our trousers, or in the broad "a," or in that cawking game, Crick, Damme, but in the Briton's characteristic toast, "To th' Ladies, God Bless 'Em!" and the hearty Britisher has reciprocated by stealing the feminine type of our magazine illustrations.

Pick up the London Graphic—the issue has just come ovuh, don't y'know. It will open of itself at a picture of "A Fair Motorist." And there she is, our own dear, impossible, unanatomical, expensive, indispensable, extremely charming, and altogether aggravating American girl. She is not supposed to be American. No, indeed. She is supposed to be British from the dashboard of her car to the last wave of her tally-ho veil. But she is American, as sure as eggs is eggs.

First, she is nine feet tall. Second, she is a chin like one of those ladies whom Burne-Jones and Rossetti used to paint in stained-glass attitudes.

Third, she has a chin like one of those ladies whom Burne-Jones and Rossetti used to paint in stained-glass attitudes.

Fourth, she is a mere sketch—our American artists would die rather than debase their art by finishing anything.

Fifth, she is, all things considered, mighty fine to look upon.

And, lastly, the human edition from which that picture was modeled makes the heart thump with recollections of evening strolls over the hills of Maryland, or the rolling farms of Virginia, or the pine-covered knolls of the Southland, or the stony pastures of New England, or the broad prairies of Kansas, or heaven knows where else—they are all lovely, and American men could not do without them, not for a moment.

We wonder that John Bull should have stolen the illustration. At best Mr. Gibson, Mr. Christy, Mr. Clay, Mr. Crosby, and the rest of that dashing (and thrifty) band of pen and ink can only distort a creature who is all sweetness and grace in the original.

Hard features every bungler can command; To draw true beauty shows the master's hand.

But we do not quarrel with the Britisher on that account. He is welcome to the illustration. We intend to keep the girls.

The Patterson Case.

The release of Nan Patterson is a relief to the public. The State has two opportunities to establish its case against her, and it failed. Her release is the only decent action to take, under the circumstances, and the State's attorneys, the Commonwealth, and the public at large are to be congratulated.

In Kenilworth there are two greetings these days: "How do you do?" and "How do you do the poolroom?"

It is noticed that, since Dowie put a mortgage on his lace factory last month, he's quit stringing up so many people.

Julio Osoro, a Mexican, is in Kansas City to learn how to conduct a meat packing concern. Canada is where he can get the information.

Charges of graft have caused duels in Havana, which proves that Cuba is not yet Americanized.

Senator Platt is learning the close resemblance between a love letter and a check for \$35,000.

The United States fleet has made remarkable coaling records, which may result in the disgrace and recall of Rogostevsky by the czar.

After talking about the local government department of oratory, Secretary Taft showed the railroad men that he was qualified for the position of department head.

The report that Castro keeps himself drugged all the time encourages the hope that some time he may wake up.

The gate receipts in Washington during the last series may convince the management that it pays to put out a winning team.

The Senate Interstate Commerce Committee thinks it has heard enough railroad testimony. It is hard work trying to forget more than 5,000 pages.

A Philadelphia paper says there is "much latent ability in this country." In Philadelphia it all goes to the gas-works.

In Chicago a man named Carnegie threatened to kill a United States marshal. Andrew's attack on duels has demoralized the whole family.

Herbert Bowen is forced to admit that the Presidential party exhibited all the discretion of trained diplomats in avoiding Omaha and Mae Ward.

IN THE CIRCLE OF SOCIETY



CAPT. RICHMOND PEARSON HOBSON, U. S. N. MISS GRIZELDA HOUSTON HULL.
Hero of the Merrimack and His Prospective Bride, Whose Marriage Will Take Place in Tuxedo Park on May 25.

RAILROAD MEN AT WHITE HOUSE

Mrs. Roosevelt Serves Tea to the Delegates.

FAIRBANKS GUEST OF HONOR

Informal Dinners and Suppers Follow Horse Show at Chevy Chase Club.

Good things, like trouble, never come singly, and today there are a number of important events to engage society. Mrs. Roosevelt's tea at the White House from 5 to 7 o'clock this afternoon, of course, ranks ahead of all other events, and the arrival of the President in time to be present will make it all the more interesting. The guests will—as at all large receptions—enter the White House by the east door, opposite the Treasury.

The Vice President and Mrs. Fairbanks, who will leave Washington tomorrow for Indianapolis, will be the guests of honor at a dinner tonight, with Mr. and Mrs. George Westinghouse as hosts.

The Counselor of the German Embassy and Baroness Buschke will entertain a dinner party.

Following the horse show at Chevy Chase, this afternoon, there will be a number of informal dinner and supper parties, and the quaint country place will put on its very best air of gaiety. The box holders for the horse show, today and tomorrow, include: Miss Alice Roosevelt, who will entertain a party of friends; the Secretary of the Navy and Mrs. Morton, Mr. and Mrs. George Lathrop Bradley, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Legare, Dr. Joseph Anderson, Arthur D. Addison, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Westcott, Mr. and Mrs. John F. Wilkins, William H. Hitt, Mrs. Preston Gibson, F. A. Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Simpson, Judge Charles M. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. George Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Denny, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Jenkins, General and Mrs. Sanger, Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Bell, Mr. and Mrs. Henry May, Gist Blair, Mrs. John F. Rodgers, William Penn Oreson, Commander and Mrs. Winslow, Mr. and Mrs. William A. Slater, M. and Mme. des Portes, of the French embassy.

There will be an unusually attractive display of gowns, and the other natural features of the horse show will be superior to last year in every way.

Dinner at Chevy Chase.

Mrs. Alfred E. Bates, wife of General Bates, entertained a dinner party at the Chevy Chase Club last night, when her guest list included Secretary and Mrs. Taft, Secretary and Mrs. Morton, Attorney General Moody, Mrs. Phil Sheridan, Mr. and Mrs. George Lathrop Bradley, General and Mrs. Randolph, Mr. and Mrs. Eno, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Crowell, Mrs. William Williams, Miss McMillan, Miss Boardman, Mrs. Feightman, Senator Warren, Admiral Kenney, General Crozier, Judge Magoon, William Nelson Crowell, and Mr. Wallace.

The Mayflower Pleasure Club closed an eventful season of parties, entertainments, and dances by a "bus party" to Great Falls, last Sunday. A most enjoyable time was spent by the members and guests who participated in the outing, and the team, drawn by four horses and decorated with dogwood, made a most striking scene.

Among the party were the Misses Mamie O'Neill, Jennie Jordan, Lizzie Corkery, Nellie Neil, Nettie Foley, Eldora King, Nellie and Henrietta O'Brien, and W. L. Carter, president; J. Stoner, secretary; H. J. Lovelace, treasurer; J. O'Neill, C. H. Scheible, W. R. Foley, C. Schlegel, R. Miles, and L. O'Neill, mascot.

Mrs. Frank M. Johnson, better known in the literary world as Charlotte Teller, one of the editors of Everybody's Magazine, is in the city for a few days, guest of Mrs. Charles DuBois, at 317 Brown street, Mt. Pleasant.

GUNBOAT DUBUQUE GOES TO SEA ON TRIAL TRIP

NEWPORT, R. I., May 12.—The gunboat Dubuque went to sea yesterday for a four-hour speed trip. She made an average speed on the run of 12.5 knots. The sea was rough at times and the wind was fairly strong.

It is announced that the boat will be accepted by the Government. Her contract called for an average speed of 12 knots.

BETTER STILL.

Long-I suppose the girl you are engaged to has a lot of common sense. Short—Yes, and, what's more, she has a lot of uncommon dollars.—Detroit Tribune.

LEAF FROM NOTES OF SOCIAL DOINGS

Secretary and Mrs. Shaw Again at Home.

JUSSERAND GOES TO YORK

Miss Townsend Slowly Recovering Her Health—Plans for the Summer Undecided.

Secretary of the Treasury and Mrs. Shaw have returned to their home in Massachusetts avenue after a few days spent in New York. Mrs. Shaw has entirely recovered from her recent illness, and is entertaining Mrs. Dulick, her sister, and Miss Hoff, her niece.

Miss Ridgely, who has been spending several days in Chicago, will return to Washington Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Williams and Miss Katherine Williams, of Chicago, who have spent the winter here, left the city this morning for Lake Forest, their summer home.

Mrs. Herbert Emory, of this city, has been called to Boston by the illness of relatives.

The French Ambassador, M. Jusserand, left Washington today for York, Pa., to attend a banquet.

Miss Townsend, who was operated on for appendicitis on April 23, continues to improve, but owing to the necessity of slow process of her convalescence will be detained in Washington indefinitely. Mrs. Townsend is entirely undecided as to her movements for the summer, which will depend largely upon the health and wishes of Miss Townsend.

Mr. and Mrs. Giraud Foster, who spent the winter at Stoneleigh Court, have returned to New York.

Mrs. W. D. Denegre, of New Orleans, is spending a month at Stoneleigh Court.

Hobson's Bride Known Here.

Mrs. Edson Bradley was accountable for the introduction of Miss Grizelda Hull to Washington society, entertaining her last winter at Stoneleigh Court for several weeks. During that time Miss Hull made herself a prime favorite with all the prominent society men and women of the Capital. She was a guest at the afternoon tea when the engagement of Miss Anita Poor and Lieutenant Palmer was announced, and upon another well-remembered occasion was the guest of Miss Margery Colton. She is extremely pretty and an heiress, her father, George H. Hull, of Tuxedo Park, being president of several large iron companies, with an office at 41 Wall street, New York.

The wedding of Captain Hobson, who is retired from the navy, and Miss Hull will take place at her home in Tuxedo Park May 25, and on account of the recent death of Judge James M. Hobson, father of the captain, the affair will be celebrated very quietly. After a honeymoon Captain Hobson will take his bride to live on the old family estate, Magnolia Grove, Greensboro, Ala.

Former Consul at Geneva Horace Washington, recently appointed consul at Cape Town, and Mrs. Washington have left Washington, where they have spent some time, and will visit in Massachusetts until they leave for Cape Town.

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar L. Barclay have moved into their new home, at 150 U street northwest. Mrs. Barclay will be pleased to see her friends at Wednesday.

Mrs. B. Nordlinger left town for New York today, where she will be the guest of her sister, Mrs. R. Rice.

Invitations in the form of telegrams, cleverly worded, have been sent to twenty-one friends of Herman Silver asking them to be present at his home, 1117 New Hampshire avenue, this evening, to celebrate his twenty-first birthday. A most enjoyable evening is expected, and most of the guests have arranged clever plans.

QUETLY WEDDED IN BRIDE'S HOME

Miss Mabel V. Walters, and Enoch M. Woodward were married at the home of the bride, 849 L street northwest, last evening at 5 o'clock, the Rev. Dr. Samuel Greene, of Calvary Baptist Church, officiating. Melvin C. Walters, brother of the bride, was best man. Miss Grace M. Walters was bridesmaid. The flower girl was Miss Helen L. Walters, both

sisters of the bride. Mrs. Grimes played the wedding march on the piano.

The house was tastefully decorated with roses and spring flowers. Among the guests were, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. George V. Crouse, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Castle, Mr. and Mrs. Granville Fernald, Mr. and Mrs. George Oliver, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Rust, Mrs. Crossman and daughters, Mrs. L. Cook, Mrs. M. Young, Mrs. L. Champ, Miss Bessie House, Miss Katie Keiser, Miss Zora V. Allen, Beverly Fullam, and Dr. J. H. Belter.

The marriage of Miss M. Grace Matthews to Thomas Cuthbert Trescott will take place at St. John's Church, Georgetown, June 19, at noon.

The marriage of Miss Rita Hamilton Ryan to Alan Ogilvie Clephane will be solemnized Thursday, June 1, at St. Thomas' Church.

The engagement is announced of Miss Lida V. Bookwalter, niece of the Hon. John W. Bookwalter, to Clinton M. Hall, of New York, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry H. Hall, of New Orleans. Mrs. Hall is a prominent officer of the Colonial Dames. Mr. Hall is a distinguished lawyer, dean of the law school of Yale University, and director in three railroads.

The wedding will occur early in June in New York, and the ceremony will be a quiet one owing to illness in the family. Miss Bookwalter has traveled much abroad, and is at present in New York studying music.

Mr. Hall is a member of a Wall street firm, and active in financial circles. He is a Yale man, class '98, and member of several important clubs. Mr. Hall is equally as well known in Philadelphia as in New York, having lived there before locating in New York. He is a brother-in-law of Herbert Clark and cousin of the E. W. Clark, of Philadelphia.

Mr. Hall will take his bride abroad immediately after their marriage.

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May Holds Commission At President's Pleasure

Document So Reads, and He Can Withhold It Until He Can Personally Transmit It to the Executive.

Army officers are much interested in the controversy in the District National Guard over General Harries' disbandment of the First Regiment and the discharge of Colonel May, Lieutenant Colonel Ross, and Chaplain Meyer. No protest has been made to the War Department by the discharged officers, but it is said that the question may come up before the President. This is because it is positively shown that the commission held by Colonel May, as are all colonels' commissions for the District National Guard, provides for the retention in office of the holder "during the President's pleasure."

A paragraph in the commission is as follows: "This commission to continue in force during the pleasure of the President of the United States for the time being."

It is pointed out that Colonel May can legally hold to his ground of refusing to give up his commission until he can personally send it to the President. Should that be done, then the

dispute can be brought directly to the attention of the Executive, who is the commander-in-chief of the District National Guard.

Army officers with knowledge of military law say the mustering out of the First Regiment does not involve General Harries' rank as brigadier general. "For," said one of them today, "you might just as well say that General Bliss, of the war college, is not a brigadier general. He is not in command of a brigade, and the same is true of many officers assigned to similar duty. The matter of having command of a brigade is not stipulated by the law."

A statute quoted on this point is section 173 of military law, as follows: "There shall be appointed and commissioned by the President of the United States commanding general of the militia of the District of Columbia with the rank of brigadier general, who shall hold office until his successor is appointed and qualified."

Should Colonel May make a protest to the War Department, it will come first before General Oliver, the assistant Secretary of War, who deals particularly with militia matters.

Drawback for Charity From Conscience Fund

Writer Says \$12,000 Was More Than Four-fold Payment; Asks That Part Be Sent to Woman Who Nursed Him.

Many queer letters have been received at the Treasury Department in connection with the "conscience fund," but Secretary Shaw found one in his mail this morning which surpasses anything on record.

Several weeks ago a contribution of \$12,000, the next to the largest on record, was received by Secretary Shaw and turned over to Chief Dascum, of the public money division. The letter transmitting this large amount of money, which was in bills, was dated at Jersey City.

Drawback for Charity.

This morning the following letter was received at the Treasury Department: "Mr. Secretary Shaw, not long since, to satisfy my mind I sent you \$12,000 in currency. I sent you \$2,000 thousand more than I die and have me put a Way nice, and I want you if you will to see this poor lady a little of that money you please she is try to school to little girls one 8 years and the other 10 her name is, Addie Adams, Alvarado,

Johnson county, Texas. When you get this I will be at rest I taken her name and I want the President to send her a little donation for her act of charity in his own name please grant this last request I subscribe my self

A PENITENT SINNER.

Goodby One God One Flag May the Lord take care of the President My Love to all.

Not Same Chirography.

The peculiar thing about this letter is that the handwriting does not compare at all with the few lines transmitting the big contribution from Jersey City. It is thought that some ignorant Westerner or Easterner, badly in need of funds, took this step as a possible method of securing a little cash. Of course, the name of the woman must be fictitious.

The "penitent sinner" evidently thought that the Treasury Department would really send the \$2,000 in excess of the "fourfold payment."

Of course Secretary Shaw will pay no attention whatever to the letter.

DROWNED IN THE CANAL.

SANDY HILL, N. Y., May 12.—The body of F. E. Daly, a farmer sixty years old, was found in the canal at Smith's Basin. Daly came from Fort Edward on a late train last night and started to walk home on the towpath.

